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TAGS: PFOR, ASEC; PINS, PL, US

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF POLISH OFFICIALS

FOR COORDINATION WITH Stote

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3 B 2 B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2004 2006

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF POLISH OFFICIALS IN THE US: ACTIVITIES OF "FREE POLAND" REFS: (A) IAEA VIENNA 5100 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 150312 (NOTAL), (C) WARSAW 4172 (NOTAL), (D) STATE 136871 (NOTAL), (E) USMISSION USUN 1945 (NOTAL), (F) WARSAW 1465 (NOTAL), (G) STATE 055650 (NOTAL) VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPASOWSKI HAD ASKED ME TO CALL ON HIM JUNE 19 TO DISCUSS THE SECURITY OF POLISH OFFICIAL INSTALLATIONS AND PERSONNEL IN THE US (REF C). 2. HE BEGAN BY REFERRING TO THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN US OF AIDE-MEMOIRE IN MARCH (REFS F AND G) AND SAID THAT, FOR THEIR PART, THE POLISH AUTHORITIES "WERE AND ARE FULLY SATISFIED WITH THE ANSWERS" THEY HAD BEEN GIVEN IN MARCH, "BUT," HE SAID, "THE HARASSMENT CONTINUES, WE HAD VERY CLEAR EVIDENCE OF THIS IN MAY AND AGAIN THIS MONTH, IT IS VERY UNFORTUNATE THAT THIS HAS HAPPENED: IT CREATES BAD CONDITIONS FOR THE WORK OF OUR OFFICES IN THE US, IT IS COMPLETELY OUT OF TUNE WITH THE SPIRIT OF OUR RELATIONS AND WITH WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN IMPROVING THEM. CONSEQUENTLY, WE WANT ONCE AGAIN TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THESE FACTS AND TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION WHICH CALLS ITSELF 'FREE POLAND.' FOR ONE THING, THAT ORGANIZATION HAS REFERRED TO OUR AMBASSADOR, MR. TRAMPCZYNSKI. IN A VERY OFFENSIVE WAY AND IN VERY BAD TASTE, I THINK YOU WILL AGREE THAT THIS MAN HAS CONTRIBUTED A GREAT DEAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF

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OUR RELATIONS." I INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT HE CERTAINLY HAS. 3. HERE SPASOWSKI HANDED ME A COPY OF PAGE 10 OF A TYPE-WRITTEN POLISH-LANGUAGE PUBLICATION (PRESUMABLY OF "FREE POLAND"), ENTITLED "COMMUNIQUES FROM THE FIELD OF BATTLE," DATED OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1975, ACCUSING AMBASSADOR TRAMPCZYNSKI "TREASON TO THE POLISH PEOPLE" AND CONCLUDING THAT "AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, WITOLD TRAMPCZYNSKI WILL BE INDICTED FOR TREASON BEFORE THE TRIBUNAL OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND," THIS "COMMUNIQUE" IS SIGNED "FOR THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION OF FREE POLAND: ANATOL KAREWICZ, CHIEF FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS." 4. SPASOWSKI SAID DRILY THAT, WHEN ONE WAS CONFRONTED WITH A DOCUMENT OF THIS SORT, SIGNED BY THE CHIEF OF A "MILITARY ORGANIZATION." ACCUSING SOMEONE OF "TREASON," ONE HAD A RIGHT TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DOCUMENT AND THE CONSEQUENCES. (EMBASSY COMMENT: IF IS A PSEUDONYM, THE NAME "KAREWICZ" IS PRESUMABLY BASED ON "KARA," WHICH MEANS "EXECUTION" OR "SENTENCE,") 5. SPASOWSKI THEN SAID THAT THE PUBLICATION IN THE CONGRESS-IONAL RECORD OF THE "COMMUNIQUES" OF "FREE POLAND" WAS VERY DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN TO SENIOR POLISH OFFICIALS, WHO SIMPLY COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW PRESUMABLY RESPONSIBLE AMERICAN LEGISLATORS COULD SPONSOR OR PATRONIZE AN ORGANIZATION WHACH THREATENED THE LIVES OF DULY ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL OF A STATE WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS OFFICIAL RELATIONS. IT IS JUST AS DIFFICULT SPASOWSKI WENT ON, TO EXPLAIN WHY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, IN A LETTER OF MARCH 8, 1976, SIGNED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD D. VINCE, ADDRESSED TO KONSTANTY HANFF, WOULD APPEAR TO RECOGNIZE "FREE POLAND" AS A VALID PARTNER FOR DIALOGUE. HERE, SPASOWSKI HANDED ME A COPY OF A PAGE FROM WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE VERSION OF THE PUBLICATION REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 3. THIS IS ENTITLED "REPORTS FROM THE BATTLEFIELD," AND DESIGNATED NO. 9, MAY, 1976, PAGE 10, AND CONTAINS A REPRODUCTION OF A LETTER ON DEPARTMENT LETTER-HEAD TO "DEAR MR; HANFF," SIGNED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE. 7, (COPIES OF THESE TWO DOCUMENTS ARE BEING SENT TO

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SPASOWSKI THEN HANDED ME AN AIDE-MEMOIRE (A TRANSLATION WHICH IS BEING TRANSMITTED BY SEPTEL) DEALING WITH THESE AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SECURITY OF POLISH OFFICES AND PERSONNEL IN THE US AND ASKED THAT I TRANSMIT IT TO MY GOVERNMENT WITH THE REQUEST THAT EFFECTIVE MEASURES BE TAKEN TO PUT AN END TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THIS TERRORISTIC ORGANIZATION AND OTHERWISE TO ASSURE THE SECURITY OF POLISH DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OFFICES IN THE US AND THEIR NORMAL FUNDTIONING IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW AND CUSTOM. IN RESPONSE, I MADE TO SPASOWSKI THE POINTS SET FORTH IN REF B. I ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT COULD NOT CONTROL WHAT WAS AUTHORIZED BY SENATORS OR CONGRESSMEN FOR PUBLICATION IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I ALSO SAID THAT THE REGULATIONS PROVIDED BY LAW FOR THE ANSWERING OF INQUIRIES UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WERE VERY SPECIFIC. I ASSUMED IT WAS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THESE THAT DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE HAD SIGNED THE LETTER TO HANFF OF MARCH 8. SAID THAT, WHEN I HAD BEEN IN THE DEPARTMENT IN MAY, I HAD INQUIRED PARTICILARLY INTO WHAT WAS BEING DONE ABOUT HANFF'S ACTIVITIES. I HAD BEEN TOLD ESSENTIALLY WHAT DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE TOLD AMBASSADOR TRAMPCZYNSKI ON JUNE 3 (REF D); THAT WE HAVE NO LEGAL GROUND TO ACT AGAINST THE PBULICATIONS OF "FREE POLAND," I SAID I HAD FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT THREATS AGAINST THE LIVES OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PERSONNEL WERE NOT ACTIONABLE UNDER OUR LAW, BUT THAT THAT APPEARED TO BE THE CASE, HERE, SPASOWSKI ASKED WHETHER HANFF WERE AN AMERICAN CITIZEN. I SAID I UNDERSTOOD WAS NOT A CITIZEN, BUT A RESIDENT ALIEN. 10. FINALLY, I SAID THAT I WOULD TRANSMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A REPORT OF THE VICE MINISTER'S REPRESENTATION, TOGETHER WITH A TRANSLATION OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, AND WOULD STRONLGY RECOMMEND THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO FIND MEANS OF TAKING EFFECTIVE ACTION TO PUT A STOP TO THESE ACTIVIEITES. 11. I DO NOT ANTICIPATE THAT THIS SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED WITH SECRETARY SIMON, ALTHOUGH IT IS HARDLY COICIDENTAL THAT THIS REPRESENTATION WAS MADE ON THE EVE OF THIS VISIT TO POLAND. IT MAY BE RAISED INFORMALLY BY SPASOWSKI WITH ASSITANT SECRETARY HARTMAN. DAVIES